

NOGGOG



**NOTTINGHAM
GAY SOCIAL
GROUP**

FEBRUARY 1983

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

FEBRUARY

- Tues. 8th Ice Skating. Meet at the Old Cricketers Pub near the Ice Stadium between 7.30 and 8pm.
- Fri. 11th Badminton at the Victoria Leisure Centre, Bath St. For further details contact Patrick at CVS.
- Fri. 18th Members of NOGSOG and all other local gay groups are invited to a meeting with local prospective parliamentary candidate Martyn Sloman at CVS (in the Group Room) at 8pm. He wants to hear the views of local gays and get to know the sort of things we want from local government and from Parliament (and our present and future MPs.) His present knowledge of the gay scene and gay organisations is very limited, but he is anxious to learn from us. If he is elected to parliament at the next election it would be useful to have an MP who has bothered to listen to gays and who may be responsive to our needs, so please come along. Coffee will, of course be provided.
- Thurs 24th Programme meeting at CVS at 8pm.
- Fri. 25th Games Evening at Mike's 19, Thomas Close, St. Ann's, at 8pm. (This has been carried forward from the 18th so as not to clash with the meeting at the CVS).

MARCH

- Wed. 2nd Video night at Andy's. 1, Burnham Court Lodge, Bestwood Park Drive West, Rise Park. At 8pm.
- Thur. 10th General Meeting about NOGSOG at 8pm at CVS.

Here are a few things that various members are interested in arranging:-

Perry is interested in a day or evening trip to Blackpool in late February or early March. Perry has space in his car for 3 people apart from himself. If people feel like spending the whole day in Blackpool then Perry thinks it best to stay there overnight.

Similarly, some people would like to organise a weekend trip to Holland in June or July. For both of these things please see Patrick at CVS.

Jerry would like to arrange a general games evening (games of the sporting type as distinct from Mike's board games). See Jerry at CVS.

Mike Raymond would like to arrange a snooker evening. See Mike at CVS or telephone 55196.

EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING TO WIND UP NOGSOG ?

Now boys and girls, pay attention, this is your leader speaking. Big brother is watching you, or at least he would be if there were any of you around to watch. Where are you all? I realise that after the seasonal festivities everyone has overspent and overenjoyed themselves but that doesn't mean that the world has to stop turning. There are still people alive out there who need your help. It cannot have escaped everyones notice that the group was suffering rather a decline in it's fortunes before Xmas and some of us are wondering what can be done to put some life back into it. Indeed some of us are wondering if it can survive at all? There are some members who are having to devote an increasing amount of time and effort to just keep things ticking over. I am ashamed to say that I cannot include myself amongst them. But I've got a new typewriter now and new enthusiasm (I hope). Who are these people that need our help I hear you chorsing? Well, they fall into two categories. Firstly, and I hope you'll agree most importantly, there are the poor souls who stumble unawares on our happy little band of followers (or are dragged in screaming after their initial 'chatette' with someone from the switchboard). Remember your first visit? Weren't you surprised and delighted to meet such a cheerful, relaxing group of friends? Didn't they practically fight to make you a cup of coffee? Didn't their friendly and witty conversation make you feel completely at home and at ease? Well if not it should have done. The last time I tried to introduce someone to the group there was no-one (Yes, I do mean NO-ONE) there. Contrary to popular belief certain members of the group are not ALWAYS there. On this occasion many of us were in a Switchboard meeting, which I'm sure you'll agree is even more important than NoGSoG. Others who are ALWAYS there do sometimmes like a night off, or have other personal committments. Those of you who don't like to go too often may like to consider how those of us feel who are expected to be there every time. This brings us on to the second group of people who you could consider helping. When did you last collect the coffee money to save Stuart the job for once? When did you last help Job with the washing up and tidying round? When did you last contribute to the newsletter to save David worrying about what to put in this time? Have you ever suggested anything for the social programme? The only reason it's always the same is because the same people have to keep coming up with ideas. The reason so few people attend the events is because YOU don't go. It's nogood turning up once and deciding not to bother again because so few people went. If we all did that what would happen? There wouldn't be a social programme. At least it would save Patrick the trouble of trying to bully or cajole peolple into thinking of things to do. Perhaps you can't think. Or won't?

When was the last time you felt you could honestly say to someone 'YES, it's a great laugh, youreally ought to join'?

It never will be a great group if YOU don't do something to help it.
IN FACT, IT MAY CEASE TO EXIST AT ALL.

First gay ad strikes a surly TV chord

by Harry Coen

THE Independent Broadcasting Authority, which gave the go-ahead for Channel 4's hour-long homosexual programme, One In Five, on New Year's Day, has objected to a 10-second commercial that came immediately after.

The advertisement showed a still of a stack of newspapers as a woman's voice said: "Make 52 New Year resolutions . . .

Keep up to date with Capital Gay every week."

The newspaper is a weekly freesheet circulated in homosexual pubs and clubs in the London area. The IBA says that London Weekend Television, which accepted the advertisement on behalf of Channel 4, should have submitted the script and copies of the newspaper to it for clearance.

LWT replied that it saw nothing untoward about the advertisement—sold at a bargain

price of £125—and had not realised that approval was needed. Harry Theobalds, the IBA's director of advertising control, said: "The company has now accepted that it did not follow the usual procedure." The authority, he said, was obliged by law to see that commercials did not offend public opinion or promote contentious or broadly political material.

Theobalds said he supported Thames Television's rejection of Christmas greetings adver-

tisements which London Gay Switchboard, the homosexual information service, and Simon Scott, a homosexual disc jockey, tried to place with Channel 4. But he denied that the IBA imposes a blanket ban on homosexual-related advertising.

Graham McKerrow and Michael Mason, co-editors of Capital Gay, said yesterday: "Our ad was the first gay ad ever on British TV. The fuss is ludicrously out of proportion."

Founder Lemon back in charge at Gay News

By Nicholas de Jongh

The founder of Gay News, and its editor for nearly 10 years, Mr Denis Lemon has returned to the fortnightly paper only a year after selling it to Mr Robert Palmer.

Mr Lemon is to become editor-in-chief of the financially ailing journal with responsibility for "all editorial policy and activity." Mr Palmer remains publisher and sole owner.

The two have also reached a legal agreement about the price which Mr Palmer paid for the paper. A series of

annual repayments have been renegotiated "to the much greater advantage of Gay News." Details are secret.

Mr Palmer's inability to meet the payments caused a crisis at the newspaper for homosexuals last year.

Mr Lemon's return seems independent of the new deal.

Since he left, the paper has undergone drastic transformations and its news coverage has deteriorated. Mr Palmer regards Mr Lemon as the man most likely to invigorate it.

The present editor, Mr Andrew Lumsden, said yester-

day: "I have every confidence in Denis Lemon. I have no such confidence in Robert Palmer as the ultimate controller of editorial policy."

Mr Lemon said that he would not be asking anyone to resign. "There is a competent team of people to produce the newspaper. I'm going to establish much stronger links with the readership and get back to appealing to a wide cross section, whether young, middle-aged or old."

● Right: Denis Lemon—'competent team'



Arrests of gays under Police Bill 'likely'

By Penny Chorlton

The Government's Police Bill will give greatly increased powers to officers to harass and arrest homosexual people for quite trivial reasons, according to the National Council for Civil Liberties. The group announced yesterday its intention to try to strengthen public and political opposition to the bill.

"If the bill is enacted in its present form, the police will have sweeping new powers which they are particularly likely to use against lesbians and homosexual men," said the council's general secretary, Miss Patricia Hewitt.

Included in the new provisions are powers to arrest for any offence, however minor, to prevent affronting public decency. According to the coun-

cil's gay rights officer, Miss Ann-Marie Bradley, that could apply to someone leaving a gay club and showing affection for a person of the same sex in public.

Or, she suggests, they could be routinely stopped and searched under the new powers when visiting known gay meeting places.

According to the NCCL, this already takes place, but it will be encouraged by the new legislation.

It suggests that it would be quite possible for the police to stop a gay person for an alleged offence such as dropped litter. They could then carry out a search and inspect address books and diaries. People in such circumstances could be arrested if they failed to provide a name and address.

THIS BILL IS A DISGRACE:

As well as the powers described in the article, the Bill also gives the police powers to obtain previously confidential matter from people such as doctors, lawyers, clergymen and people professionally involved in counselling (or self-help counsellors like Friend and Gay Switchboard).

Write to your MP and do it now.